

CONFIDENTIALUNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
LONDON BUREAU

19 October 1948.

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To: [] Chief, FBIB.

From: Chief, London Bureau, FBIS.

Subject: Report of Activities of London Bureau covering month ending
15 October 1948.

I. Implementation of recently proposed plans and policies.

With the opening of the Paris meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations this bureau began providing reports on Soviet and European radio reaction to the U.N. meeting for the U.S. delegation. Original plans called for one special report to be prepared on a five-day-a-week basis, but, at the request of the delegation to Paris, this was quickly expanded to the following:

The preparation of and filing to Paris seven days a week of a special report on U.N.;

the preparation of and filing to Paris seven days a week of a special 200-word report on the Soviet radio's most heavily featured news story or commentary of the day, whether it is concerned with U.N. or not;

the filing to Paris five days a week of the regular review of Soviet broadcasts;

the covering of the Paris delegation on any major news breaks, first by telephoning the news to Paris and following up by teleprinting the text (this has been done on three occasions; The Soviet reply to the three-power Note on Berlin; the Soviet Note on Korea; and, the first reaction of the Soviet to the submission to the Security Council of the Berlin dispute).

As regards the security check of locally-hired personnel, a preliminary report has been received from the local Area Security Officer to the effect that all personnel of this bureau have been found satisfactory.

II. Accomplishment of overall mission including firmly established individual objectives.

This was by far the worst month experienced by this bureau as far as communications were concerned. Atmospheric difficulties and the inability of the [] to cope with its increased burden resulted in 227,011 words of our traffic being filed via Western Union, while 565,280 words were transmitted over Signal Corps facilities - a total file of 792,894 words (previous month 752,848 words).

G2 EUCOM, OIC OMGUS and ODI OMGUS each received 64,630 words from the report section, while 45,270 words were filed to Paris for the Embassy and the U.N. delegation.

A total of 244,162 words of [] traffic was relayed through London.

III. Proposals for improvement.

In the light of the unsatisfactory communications situation, it was decided to send the Communications Chief to [] for discussions with Signal Corps officials. Reports of this mission have already been dispatched to Washington. It is anticipated that, largely as a result of the Communications Chief's visit to Frankfurt, an early improvement in Signal Corps handling of this bureau's traffic will be evidenced.

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